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Title: Special Pre Release

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This is the special  
unedited teaser for my  
new epic work:

The Stonegate War

Having taken part in the  
Stonegate campaign I Isk,  
Magnate of Humanis,  
wrote the history of the  
war between Moonglow  
and the world beginning  
at the moment it broke  
out, believing that it  
would be a great event  
and more worthy of  
relation than any that  
had preceded it. This was  
not without grounds as  
the preparations of all  
the combatants were in  
every department in the  
last stage of perfection;  
and one could see the  
rest of Sosaria taking  
sides in the quarrel;  
those who delayed doing  
so had contemplated  
joining one side or the  
other. Assuredly the  
words of these texts will  
not be distributed either  
by verse of a poet  
displaying the exaggeration  
of his craft or by the  
compositions of the  
chroniclers that are  
attractive at truth's  
expense; the subjects  
they treat being out of  
reach of evidence, and  
time having robbed most  
of them of historical

value by enthroning them in myth. Turning from this the reader can be satisfied in knowing that the clearest data was used in the creation of this piece.

Because the accounts of this campaign are written three years after the battles which began in 2001 the exact wording for speeches could not be recalled perfectly, indeed some events were not remembered by all giving the author a chance to add what would have been said and done in order to bridge facts and keep the events of this historical tale moving. I have written my work, not as an essay which is to win the applause of the moment, but as a possession for all time. The battle of Stonegate or the Virtue War as it is sometimes called stretched over a period of four months unleashing a frenzy of hate and violence unprecedented since the scourge of Mondain. This madness was initiated in the name of the virtues by the mayor of Moonglow, lord GreyPawn as a measure to direct the energy of light into a force to summon the Avatar. Once unleashed the passion could not be controlled. The violence began with the massacre at Yew, proceeded to the wholesale persecution of the Aeirs' family, sapped the innocence of Britannia and led to an unimaginable death toll on all sides.

This story shall follow the roles of Richard the unconquerable general of Moonglow and his lord

Greypawn the calculating mayor. We shall see Galathan of the Fourth Division and Nazralte fight side by side on the field of battle. We shall see how subtle corruptions turned this noble crusade into a nightmare, a child killed, a lie spread and a secret finally revealed...

This was Sosaria's greatest battle and its story shall now be told.

Towards the end of the year 2001 GreyPawn who was the mayor of Moonglow came to the realization that evil will never truly be removed from the realm through the acts of mortal men. As the Regency and its countless allies remained unable to cleanse Sosaria, darkness continued to fester. It is said that during a dream GreyPawn was shown the Candle of Love, the Book of Truth and the Bell of Courage, it did not take long to realize that such powerful artifacts could be used in a ritual to shed virtue over the entire realm. Thus one man's dream would become the quest of many. Having shared his plan to acquire the three virtue artifacts with the Moonglow Town Council's inner circle GreyPawn sent out a letter to the Heralds of the Awakening stating to Aleph who was their leader since the order was established that a time of light is upon Sosaria. In addition to this missive GreyPawn sent a task runner to Yew. The task runner was given this missive to deliver to the mayor of

Yew:

Thorin

It is evident that with the Dark Awakening and the orcs active in your city you require assistance from a greater power. Grant us usage of Empath Abbey for the period of one month and we shall keep your city safe.

-Greypawn.

Knowing that the Candle of Love must be hidden in the Abbey Greypawn gambled that Thorin and the government of Yew would allow him use of the structure and in effect hand over the Candle of Love. Thorin was weary of GreyPawn's offer however and quickly rejected the missive in a rude manner stating in a letter:

GreyPawn

The army of Yew is strong and requires no aide from you. Do not insults us by suggesting that we fear for our safety, we are strong enough to keep the Abbey safe. We will not let you take a single home as we know well what you did in Nujel'm

-Thorin

Infuriated by the response, especially as it made reference to Nujel'm which had been conquered just months previous GreyPawn once again consulted his inner council. The intent was to take the Abbey and the candle with it. Richard the general of Moonglow quickly drew up a battle plan and consulted with the strongest soldiers from MTC in order to

pick the best time to  
strike against Yew. Thus  
it was agreed to attack  
in a week's time.

Not wanting to cause  
public opinion to sway  
against him the good  
mayor of Moonglow  
ventured off to his  
private residence on the  
island of ice in felucca  
where he contemplated on  
what move to take  
before the battle.

Entering a deep trance  
GreyPawn remained still in  
his isolated location only  
to stir when the sun  
rose. When the first  
light of day hit him the  
mayor uttered the words  
'Semper Veritas' it  
was the first time the  
mantra was spoken. From  
his meditations GreyPawn  
founded the words that  
would symbolize the quest  
he had taken his island  
on. The time came to  
test the mantra's  
power...

I hope you have enjoyed  
this teaser. The Full set  
of this series will be sold  
within a month's time but  
before it goes on sale we  
will hold a special event  
here in this tavern. Stay  
alert for details about  
it.